PERMANENT WAGE BOARD FOR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

1375. SHRI V. S VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a permanent wage board for the Central Government employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) : (a) and (b) The Fourth Central Pay Commission suggested for setting up of a Permanent Wage Review Body which should be responsible for maintaining and updating the basic data on pay and allowances of Government employees and to review the pay scales and rates of allowances and other related matters. Orders were issued on 26-5-1988 setting up a small compact unit in the Ministry of Finance for maintaining and updating the basic data of pay and allowances of Government employees and other related matters. This was not however acceptable to the Staff Side who have reiterated their demand for the setting up of Permanent Wage Review Body. This issue has been discussed in several meetings with the Staff Side and a final acceptable conclusion is yet to emerge.

EXPORT OF TEA

1376. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of tea exported during 1990-91; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the tea production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The estimated quantum of tea exported during 1990-91 was 199.48 Million Kgs. valued at Rs. 1045.41 Crores.

(b) For increasing tea production and processing capacities, Tea Board has been providing financial assistance to the tea industry through its various developmental schemes for (a) Optimisation of inputs and improved cultural practices (b) Irrigation, Drainage, Rejuvenation, Pruning and Infilling and (c) New Plantation in traditional and non-traditional areas, Replanting etc.

ITEMS RESERVED FOR HANDLOOM SECTOR

1377. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of items reserved exclusively for handloom sector at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of items reserved exclusively for handloom sector; and

(c) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) A total of 22 items were reserved for exclusive production on handlooms vide notification dated 4th August 1986. List of items is given below in the statement.

(b) and (c) The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 and the orders issued thereunder are inoperative because of the Stay Order of the Supreme Court and till such time the stay is vacated, there can be no modifications.

STATEMENT

1. Saree.
2. Kotah Doria Saree.
3. Tie & Dye saree and material.
4. Dhoti.
5. Gamcha & Angavastram.
6. Lungi.
7. Shirting.
8. Grepe Fabrics.
9. Towels.
10. Khes, Bedsheet, Bed cover, Counter pane and furnishing.
11. Table cloth, Table mat & Napkins.
12. Duster Basta.
13. Chaddar.